

13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 NOV 2001

09/807948

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PATENT
Docket No. H 3516 PCT/US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Application of Ranft et al.

International Application No. PCT/EP99/07683
International Filing Date: October 13, 1999

Serial No. 09/807,948 Examiner: To be assigned
Filed: To be assigned Art Unit: To be assigned

TITLE: HOT-MELT ADHESIVE COMPONENT LAYERS FOR SMART CARDS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

ATTN: DO/EO/US

Sir:

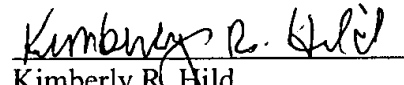
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants disclose herewith the documents listed on the enclosed IDC form PTO-1449. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document listed is enclosed. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents and evidence that consideration by initialing the IDC form next to each listed document.

Where a translation has not been provided for a non-English document, the relevance is explained in: (a) this application, (b) the enclosed English language search report issued by the European Patent Office in the international stage of this application (PCT/EP99/07683), and/or (c) an English language equivalent identified in parentheses in the "Country" column under Foreign Patent Documents of the enclosed form PTO-1449. It is noted that any English equivalent listed in the "Country" column under Foreign Patent Documents, is not intended to serve as a translation for the foreign patent document, but is being submitted to provide the Examiner with patent family information and to explain the relevance of the foreign patent document.

This Statement does not represent that a search was made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute prior art. Therefore applicants reserve the right to present to the Examiner the relevant facts and law regarding the status of each listed document. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish patentability of the claimed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of them be applied against the claims.

This statement is being submitted within three months of entering, as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491, the National Stage of the above identified application, and therefore no fee for submitting this IDS is believed to be due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-1250 if any fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 is deemed necessary for the accompanying references to be considered by the Patent and Trademark Office. This Statement is provided in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,


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Enclosures:

1. PTO Form 1449 w/references
2. International Search Report